Monday 26th May
Week 5 Term 2
Message from the Principal

Wow! What a wonderful day we had at the Athletics Carnival yesterday. I was so very proud of each and every student who participated. We have such a special school, where students really focus on participating and supporting their peers. It is not always about winning (especially since the teachers lost to not only the parents, but both student teams in the annual relay race!). Students who were successful in gaining a place in our school team will be notified as soon as the results are finalised.

A safety reminder to all parents and grandparents regarding parking areas around the school. Unfortunately, FHPHS is not blessed with suitable parking around our school. We have endeavoured to make our car parks a safe area for our students, however, we are trying to find a permanent solution to our parking issues. This week I will be in contact with both WCC and the RTA to try and come up with a plan to make our surrounding streets safer too. Please be reminded of the “NO Parking” areas around the school, police and council rangers WILL be targeting our school zone and although a ticket is unfortunate, an accident involving one of our students is much worse.

Over the past term we have been playing around with the layout of the school newsletter. We have been trying to add more relevant information and include important things that have been happening in our school. To make this change even more effective we would like to move towards being “as paperless as possible”. The costs associated with photocopying are becoming more expensive every year and the environment would be very grateful if we reduced our paper usage. With “technology at our fingertips” why not move towards online newsletters? Accompanying today’s newsletter will be a survey where you can indicate how you would like to receive your newsletter and how our school phone app can help keep you informed of events and important dates at FHPHS.

I have spoken to students about what they think would make the ideal school playground. The students have indicated that they would love areas for encouraging interaction, creativity and imagination.

Wouldn’t it be wonderful if the whole community collaborated to make this vision a reality? If any parent has ideas, contacts or skills which could help the school fulfil this dream please come and see me!

That is all from the Principal’s desk this week.
Kind regards,
Skye Hayward

*Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass, it is about learning to dance in the rain.*
Kindergarten 2015
Figtree Heights Public School is accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2015.
Contact the school to receive an ‘in-area’ or ‘out-of-area’ Expression of Interest form.
Please pass this information on to neighbours in our area who have children starting school in 2015.
Ph: 4228 6555  E: figtreehts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

School Photo Day
Thurs 29th May
Envelopes can be returned with payment prior to photo day or sent in on the day.
Sibling envelopes are available from the front foyer.
Students are to wear full winter school uniform on photo day.

Winter Uniform Up-date
Students should now be in full winter uniform
Winter Uniform order update:
All orders have been completed. We apologise for the lateness of delivery of some orders. There is a small stock of new winter girls' uniforms available for sale. We also have in stock ties (medium and long), knee-high green socks, sports uniforms, jackets and microfibre track suits.
Uniform Shop: is open Monday mornings from 8.30am – 9am for sales and fittings. Orders with payment can be dropped into the office anytime and the uniform co-ordinator will completed the order the following Monday and deliver your order to your child via the classroom.

Focus on Reading (FoR)
First Strategy
MAKING CONNECTIONS
On Tuesday FHPS teachers will be trained in the first of the 'Super Six' Focus on Reading Strategies – Making Connections. Students can comprehend any text and use the Making Connection Strategy.
There are three elements to the Making Connections strategy.
Connections can be made
TEXT TO TEXT
Making a connection from one text to another e.g. the character in this story is similar to this because… this scene is similar to the one in this text because…
TEXT TO SELF
A connection from a text to their self
TEXT TO WORLD
A connection from a text to an event (past or present) in the world
Remember a text is not just written in words; it can be electronic (YouTube clip, song, podcast), spoken (television programs, radio) or visual (a picture, advertisement).

Students will be using the 'Making Connections' strategy in class, this term. For assistance with the implementation of this program we ask that the same strategies and language be used at home. You may even hear your children use this language (making a text to self-connection) at home.

If you would like any more information (even resources or posters to use at home) on this strategy, please contact me at school or email sarah.thurston@det.nsw.edu.au. I am more than happy to help.
Sarah Thurston
Focus on Reading FHPS School Leader

BRONZE Value Wristband Awardees
Congratulations to the following students who will be receiving their bronze wristband this Wednesday at morning assembly.
WELL DONE!
Happy Birthday to the following students........
James B, Harmonie B, Jayda B, Ethan C, Jordan D & Lara F,

School Phone App
To download our school phone app go to the App Store on
iTunes (Google Play for Android users), search for Figtree
Heights and simply download.
Username: community
Password: figtreehtsp
Please make sure you allow notifications from Figtree
Heights in your phone’s control settings.

School Newsletter
If you would like to receive your school newsletter by
email, please forward your email address to:
figtreehts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
and we will add you to our mailing list

Tea Towel Yr 6 Fundraiser
Remember to send your orders in by Friday 13th June.
$12 for one, $10 per T-towel for two or more.
Spare order forms are available from the front office.

Parking Reminder
Please be reminded to park safely and courteously when
dropping off and picking up students from school. Also
please encourage students to use correct road rules when
in the school zone.

Canteen News:
The canteen will be having a special meal
deal day on Friday 6th June.
More information coming soon!

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<td>Mon, Wed &amp; Fri – open for recess and lunch</td>
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<td>Tues &amp; Thurs – open for lunchtime snacks only</td>
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P&C News
P&C Voluntary Contribution
Please remember to pay your P&C
Voluntary Contribution for 2014. The
amount is $50 per family and can be
sent in as cash or cheque (made
payable to FHPS P&C) or direct debited
into the P&C account.
BSB: 062844 Account No: 00900425
Receipts will be issued with as soon as
possible.

Entertainment Book Fundraiser
Final reminder: Please return
unwanted books to school. There are
quite a few outstanding books
particularly in the senior classes.

Thank you to all of our families who
have purchased the Entertainment
Book. Your support of our school is
greatly appreciated.

Cost of the book is $55 and payment
can be sent in to school or processed
online. Follow the payment instructions
inside the book or the payment link is:
orderbooks/2801287

P&C Committee

Scholastic Book Club
Orders are due at school by Friday
30/5/14. Spare brochures are
available from the front office.
Scholastic Book Club usually runs
two issues per term. Look out for
brochures in your child’s schoolbag!

Huge thanks to Rebecca Anderson
for taking on the Book Club co-
ordinators position.
Figtree Heights School Newsletter Option

To move towards the 21st Century needs of the world and keeping in mind our precious environment, Figtree Heights aims to move our school towards a “paperless” way of communicating with our families. Please fill out the following information sheet so our school can meet your needs with FHPS newsletter.

It is essential that this form be filled out and returned to school. If you wish to have a paper copy of the school newsletter this form MUST be returned.

FAMILY NAME: ____________________________________________________________

1. Do you have the school phone app?
   - yes
   - no

   If not, is there a reason? ______________________________________________________

2. How would you prefer to receive your school newsletter? (please choose one)
   - download from website
   - view via school phone app
   - email (please supply address) ____________________________________________
   - paper copy

3. What information would you like to see included in our school newsletter? (unlimited choice)
   - Principal's message
   - Wristband awardees
   - School reminders
   - Feature class
   - Photo gallery
   - Sport's Update
   - P&C updates and news
   - Canteen info
   - Other (please specify) __________________________________________________

4. Would you, your business or a business you know, be interested in looking at advertising options in the school newsletter?
   - no
   - maybe, depending on the terms
   - yes

5. Is there anything else you would like to add about this proposal to make our school newsletter “as paperless as possible”?

   ___________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________
Figtree Heights School Information Option

Again, to move towards the 21st Century needs of the world and keeping in mind our precious environment; Figtree Heights aims to move our school towards a "paperless" way of communicating with our families.

We would like to move the majority of our parent information notifications away from paper and use our school phone app or website to communicate. Please indicate your thoughts below:

1. I would prefer to get notifications and reminders via the school app and website?
   - yes
   - no, I prefer paper
   - no, I do not have the phone app
   - other reason ________________________________

2. I would use the school app or website to download appropriate notes or documents?
   - yes
   - no, I prefer paper
   - no, I do not have the phone app
   - other reason ________________________________

3. As a family, we find the school phone app:
   - fantastic
   - useful
   - alright
   - not of much use
   - we do not use it at all
   - other: ________________________________

4. Figtree Heights keep families well informed of events that are happening in and around the school?
   - strongly agree
   - agree
   - slightly agree
   - not informed enough
   - disagree
   - other: ________________________________

5. Is there anything else you would like to add about this proposal to make our school notifications "as paperless as possible"?
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________
   ___________________________________________

Thank you for your support in this matter!